



**DRY ANALYTICAL ELEMENT FOR ACETAMINOPHEN ASSAY**  
**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A spectrophotometric assay for the detection of acetaminophen in aqueous fluids is carried out with a dry analytical element. The element comprises a support having thereon one or more reagent layers containing a first enzyme, aryl acylamidase, to cleave the amide bond of acetaminophen to produce p-aminophenol; and a mild oxidizing agent to oxidize the p-aminophenol so that it couples to a water-soluble coupling agent to form a  
10 dye that is read at 670 nm. The assay is precise, accurate on serum and plasma samples, and relatively free from significant interferences. The element also allows measurement over a broad dynamic range.

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